

From: Chris Jessee
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/26/02 12:24pm
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

Hello,

As an information technology specialist, I'm writing to express my concern over the inadequacy of the proposed remedies in the Microsoft settlement. Any remedy short of breaking-up Microsoft will not be adequate in stopping their aggressive monopolistic business practices. Without break-up, Microsoft will continue to destroy their competitors and foist poor quality products on businesses and consumers. An important fact that has been largely overlooked in this case is that Microsoft's stranglehold on the computer industry is national security threat. Many of our government agencies, much of our military and the vast majority of our business and educational institutions operate on and are heavily dependant on Microsoft software. Hardly a week goes by that we don't hear news of the latest computer virus or hacker breakin crippling thousands of servers and desktop computers by taking advantage of the security holes in Microsoft's poorly designed and implemented products. A hacker terrorist could shutdown much of the government, military and business community with a well-written virus that exploits the holes in Microsoft's sloppy code. Hacker attacks cost companies and taxpayers millions of dollars a year because of Microsoft's negligence and our dependence on them. Microsoft should be held criminally liable for the losses caused by their software. Just as Firestone and Ford are held accountable for safety failures, Microsoft and all other software vendors should be held accountable for security failures. Breaking-up Microsoft and fining them to a degree as to cripple them and using the revenue to fund competitors and "Baby Bills" is the only way to ensure national security and consumer choice. Don't allow Microsoft's lobbyists lining the pockets of politicians to threaten the security of our country.

Thank you,

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